

# **Aortic Stenosis**

## **Different Variants**

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**Boston, MA**

## **DISCLOSURE**

**Relevant Financial**  
**Relationship(s)**

**None**

**Off Label Usage**

**None**

03/10/2005



## Severity of Aortic Stenosis

### Severe Aortic Stenosis

	Area Gradient Match		
	Mean	Valve	Valve
	Gradient	Area	Velocity
	(mmHg)	(cm <sup>2</sup> )	(m/sec)
Mild	<25	>1.5	2-2.9
Moderate	25- 40	1.0-1.5	3-3.9
Severe	>40	<1.0	> 4.0

iAVA < 0.6 cm/m<sup>2</sup>

Nishimura, et al. Circulation, 2014  
Bonow RO, et al. Circulation, 2008

# Severity of Aortic Stenosis

## Severe Aortic Stenosis

### Area Gradient Mismatch

	Mean Gradient (mmHg)	Valve Area (cm <sup>2</sup> )	Valve Velocity (m/sec)
Mild	<20	>1.5	2 - 2.9
Moderate	20- 39	1.0-1.5	3 - 3.9
Severe	>40	<1.0	> 4.0

iAVA < 0.6 cm/m<sup>2</sup>

Nishimura, et al. Circulation, 2014  
Bonow RO, et al. Circulation, 2008

# Severity of Aortic Stenosis

## Severe Aortic Stenosis

### Reverse Area Gradient Mismatch

	Mean Gradient (mmHg)	Valve Area (cm <sup>2</sup> )	Valve Velocity (cm/sec)
Mild	<20	>1.5	2 – 2.9
Moderate	20-39	1.0-1.5	3 – 3.9
Severe	>40	< 1.0	> 4.0

Nishimura, et al., Circulation 2014  
Bonow RO. et al. Circulation. 2008

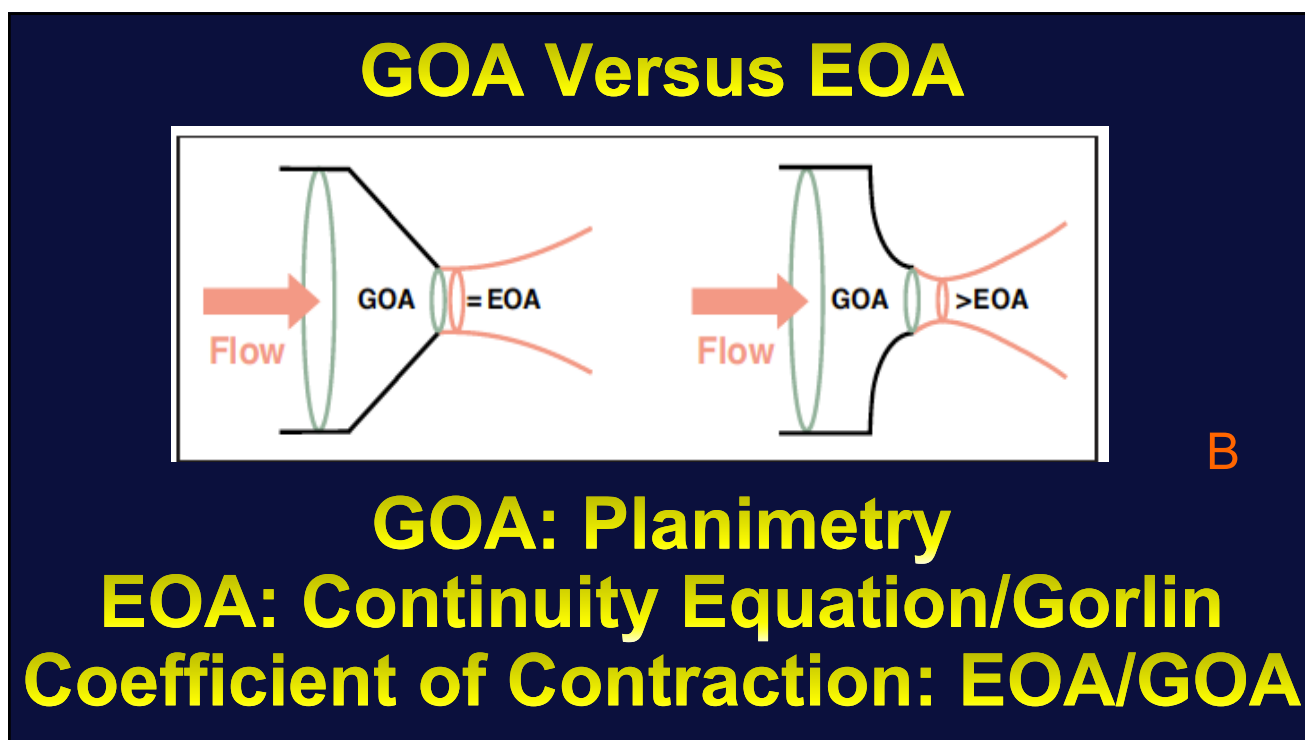
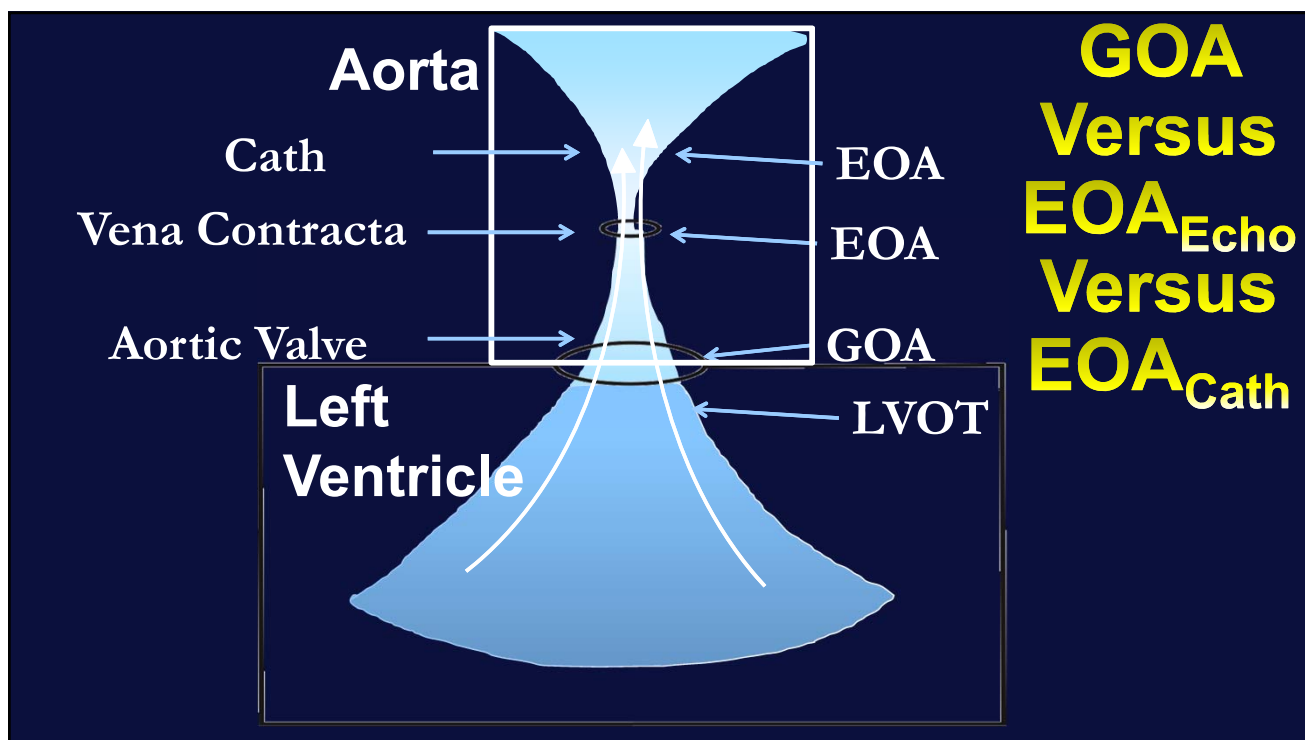
# **Aortic Stenosis**

**Determining the “True” Severity**

**Measurement Errors  
Must be Excluded**

## **Topics of Discussions**

- **GOA Vs. EOA**
- **Doppler Vs. Catheter**
- **Factors affecting Gradient**
- **Area/Gradient Mismatch**
- **Reverse Area Gradient Mismatch**

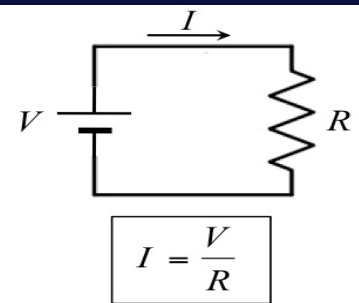


# Evangelista Torricelli

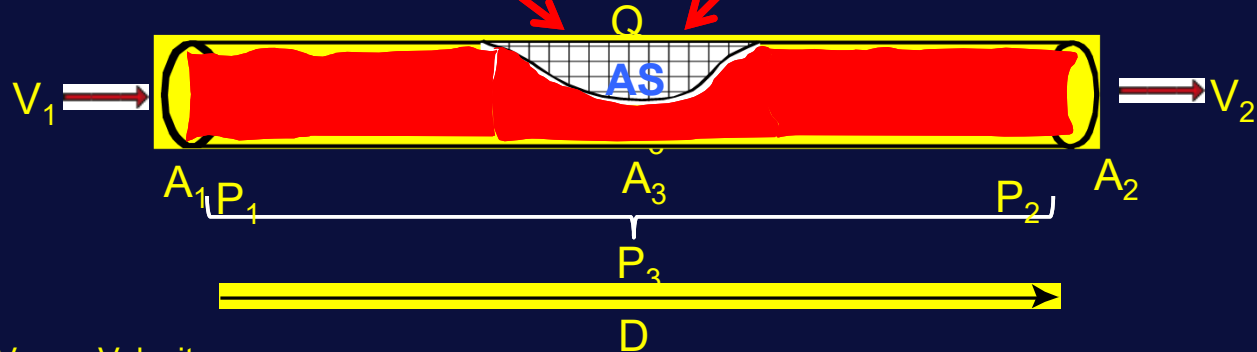
1608-1647

# Georg Simon Ohm

1789-1854



## Aortic Stenosis



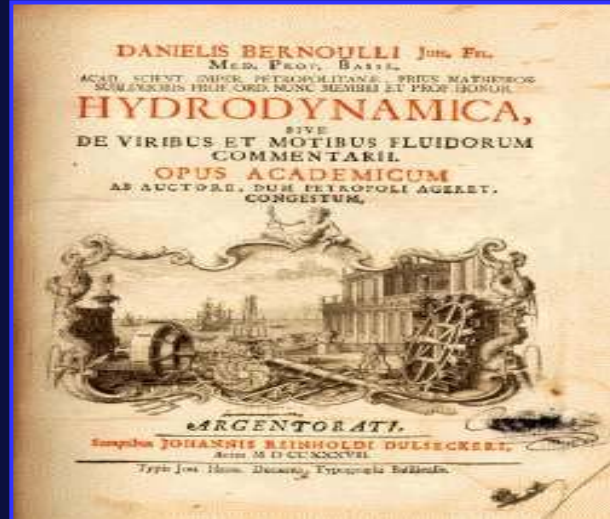
$V_{1,2,3}$  Velocity  
 $A_{1,2,3}$  Area  
 $Q$  Flow  
 $R$  Resistance  
 $P_{1,2,3}$  Pressure  
 $D$  Distance

**Catheterization: Flow  $Q = \frac{\Delta \text{ Pressure}}{\text{Resistance}}$**   
**Doppler: Flow  $Q = \text{Area} \times \text{Velocity}$**



# Daniel Bernoulli

1700-1782



## Bernoulli Equation



$$P_1 - P_2 = \frac{1}{2} \rho (V_2^2 - V_1^2) \quad \text{Convective acceleration}$$

$$+ \rho \int_{\max} (dv/dt) * ds \quad \text{Flow acceleration}$$

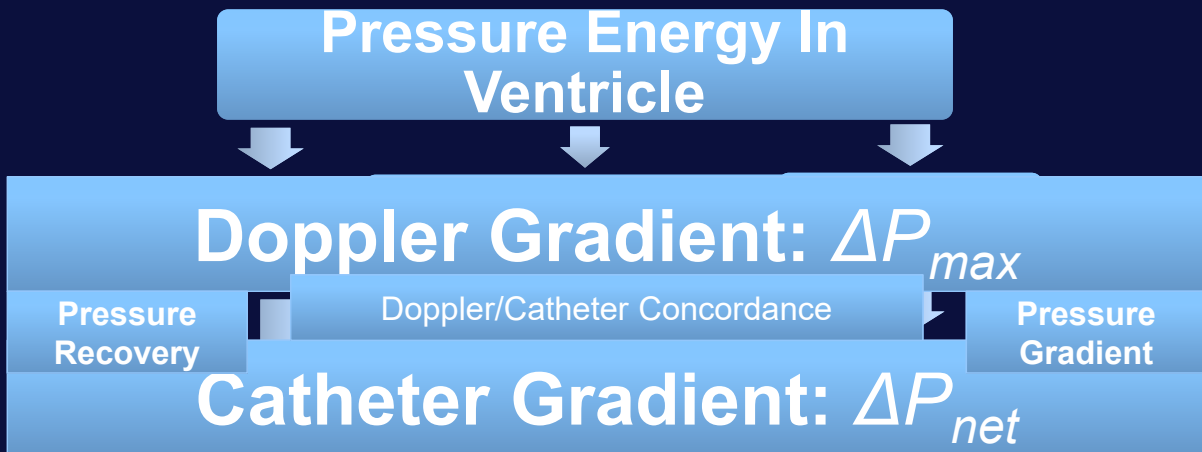
$$+ R(\mu)$$

*Short Tube  
Non-Laminar  
Acceleration*

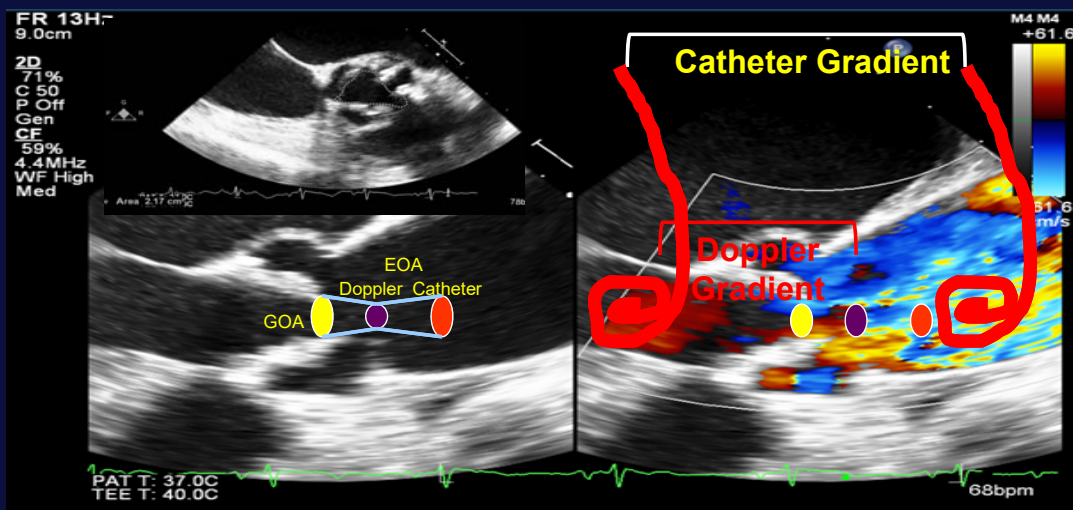
*Viscous Friction*

P1&V1= proximal to obstruction  
P2&V2= distal to obstruction  
 $\rho$ =mass density of blood  
R=viscous resistance  
 $\mu$  = viscosity

# Pressure Recovery



## Doppler versus Catheter Area and Gradient Assessment





# Upcoming Concepts

- For a given AV GOA  
The Gradient can be variable  
The EOA can be variable  
(Derived from gradient)  
The Area and Gradient may not match  
The Doppler and Catheter measures may not match

## Doppler Aortic Valve Area Assessment

**DIAGNOSTIC METHODS**  
**DOPPLER ECHOCARDIOGRAPHY**

1985

**Noninvasive estimation of valve area in patients with aortic stenosis by Doppler ultrasound and two-dimensional echocardiography**

TERJE SKJAERPE, M.D., LARS HEGRENAES, M.D., AND LIV HATLE, M.D.

- Described in 30 subjects; 14 had significant AR
- Compared only to Fick and single plane CO angiography

# Doppler Gradient Assessment

*British Heart Journal*, 1978, **40**, 131-140

## Noninvasive assessment of pressure drop in mitral stenosis by Doppler ultrasound

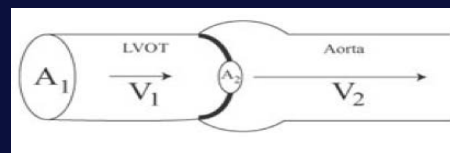
L. HATLE, A. BRUBAKK, A. TROMSDAL, AND B. ANGELSEN

*From Section of Cardiology, Medical Department, University Hospital, 7000 Trondheim; and Division of Engineering Cybernetics, The Norwegian Institute of Technology and Division of Automatic Control at the Foundation of Scientific and Industrial Control at the University of Trondheim, 7000 Trondheim, Norway*

- Described in 10 subjects
- Extrapolated to aortic valve

## Doppler Aortic Valve Gradient Assessment

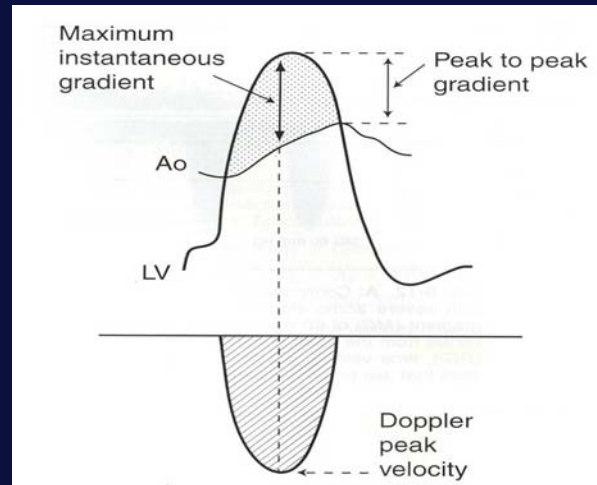
- Doppler
  - $MIG = 4V_2^2 - 4V_1^2$
  - $MIG = 4V_2^2$
- Use  $MIG = 4V_2^2 - 4V_1^2$ 
  - $V_1 > 1.5$  m/second
  - $V_2 < 3$  m/second



B

# Doppler versus Catheter Gradient Assessment

- Catheterization
  - Peak to Peak
  - $P_{\text{mean Catheter}}$
- Doppler
  - MIG ( $4V_2^2 - 4V_1^2$ )
  - $P_{\text{mean Doppler}}$
- MIG always > PPG
- $P_{\text{mean Doppler}} - P_{\text{mean Catheter}} = P_{\text{rec}}$



B

## Not Pressure Recovery

- LV Pressure: Peak 200 mmHg
- Aortic Pressure: Peak 150 mmHg
- Cath Peak to Peak: 50 mmHg
- Doppler Velocity: 4.5 m/second
- Doppler Maximum Instantaneous Gradient: Peak: 81

## **Pressure Recovery**

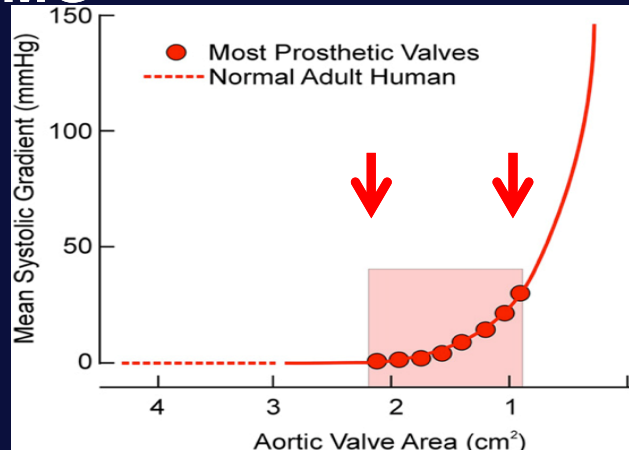
- **Catheterization Gradient = Mean 40 mmHg**
- **Doppler Mean Gradient = 50 mmHg**
- **Pressure Recovery = 10 mmHg**

## **Gradient Determinants**

- **Area**
- **Flow**
- **Jet Eccentricity**
- **Aortic root diameter**
- **Global LV afterload**

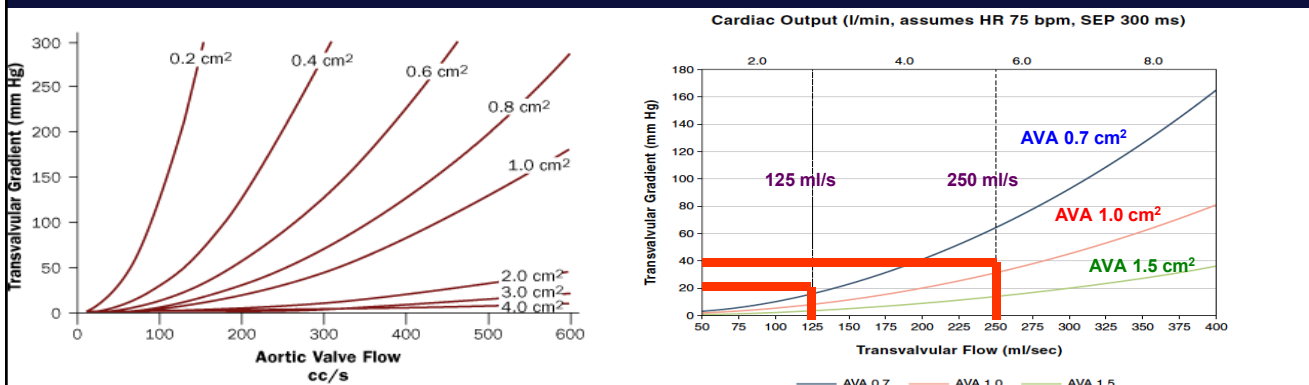
# Gradient Determinants Area

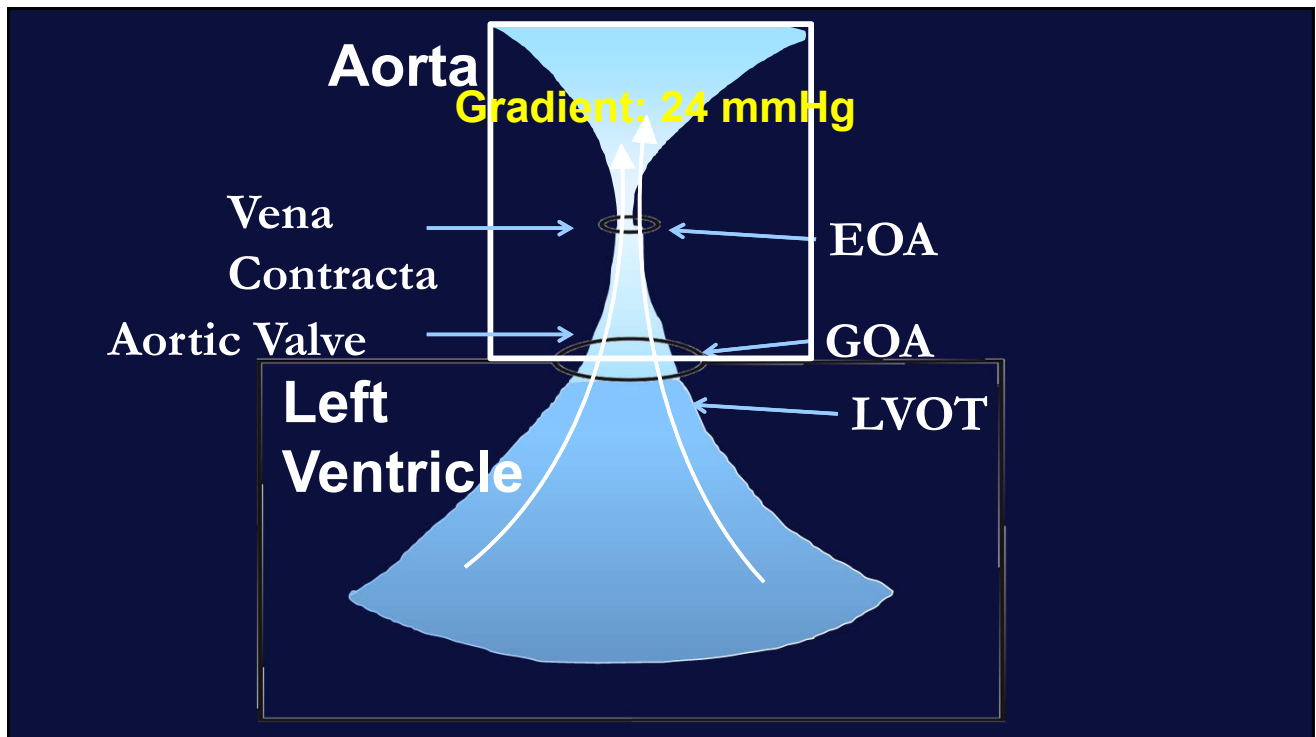
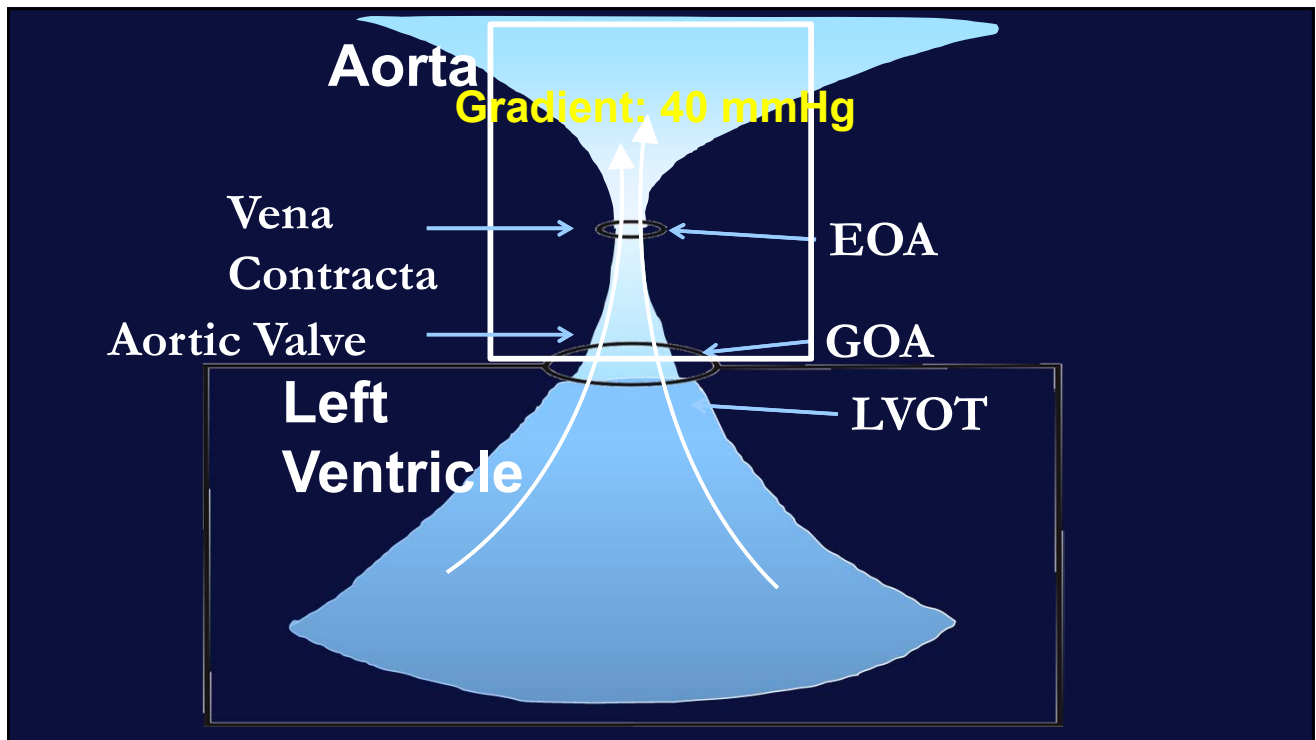
- There is an inverse quadratic relationship: Area & MG
- $\Delta P = Q^2 / (K \times EOA^2)$



# Gradient Determinants Flow

- Direct quadratic relationship: Flow & MG
- Low Flow: SVI < 35ml/m²
- Low Flow rate < 200-250 ml/s







# Flow $\neq$ EF

A: EDV = 115, ESV = 45,

SV =  $115 - 45 = 70$  ml

BSA = 1.79

EF =  $70 / 115 = 60\%$

SVI =  $39$  ml/m<sup>2</sup>

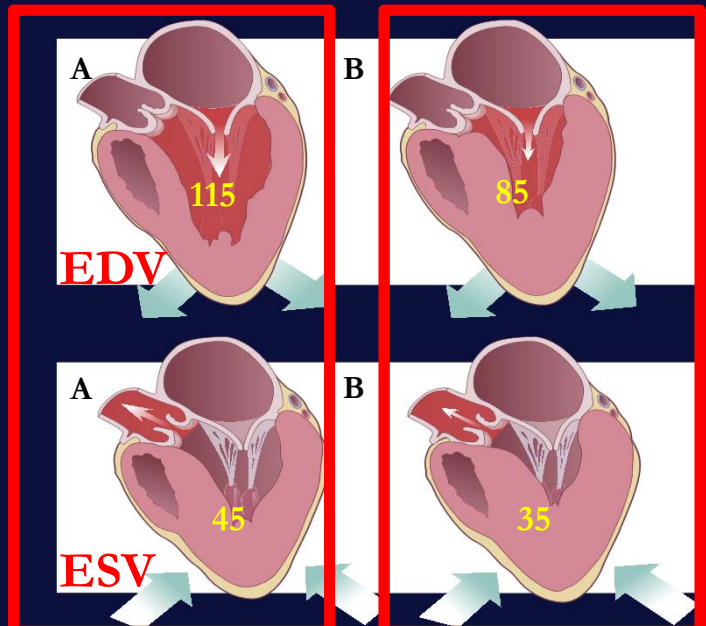
B: EDV = 85, ESV = 35,

SV =  $85 - 35 = 50$  ml

BSA = 1.79

EF =  $50 / 85 = 60\%$

SVI =  $28$  ml/m<sup>2</sup>



# Stroke Volume $\neq$ Flow Rate

Moderate AS will have a lower SEP and a higher flow rate than a patient with severe AS despite similar stroke volume

Echo = Stroke volume  
Cath = Flow rate

**Systole**

**Diastole**

TVI = 20cm

**Systole**

**Diastole**

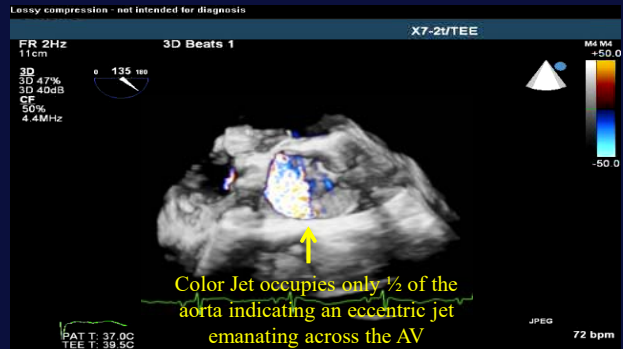
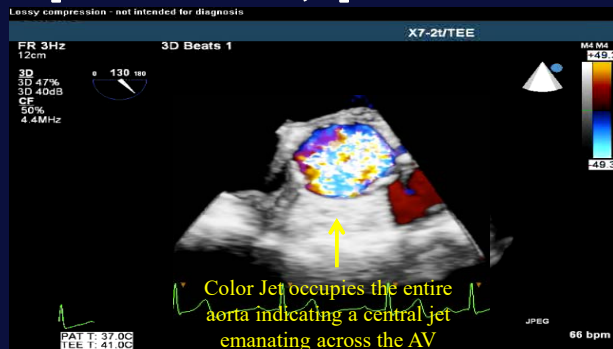
TVI = 20cm

Similar SV with different flow rates due to different SEP

Flow Rate =  $\frac{\text{Stroke Volume}}{\text{Systolic Ejection Period}}$

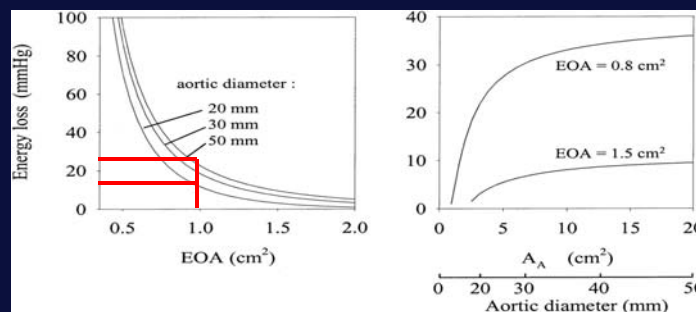
## Gradient Determinants Eccentric Jet

- Eccentric Jet Up to 30° → Higher Gradient.
- Jet squeezed against aorta. More pressure loss & less pressure recovery, **Bicuspid valves/radiation**
- ⑩ ↑Vel 0.7 m/s, ↑MG 23 mmHg, ↓EOA 0.2

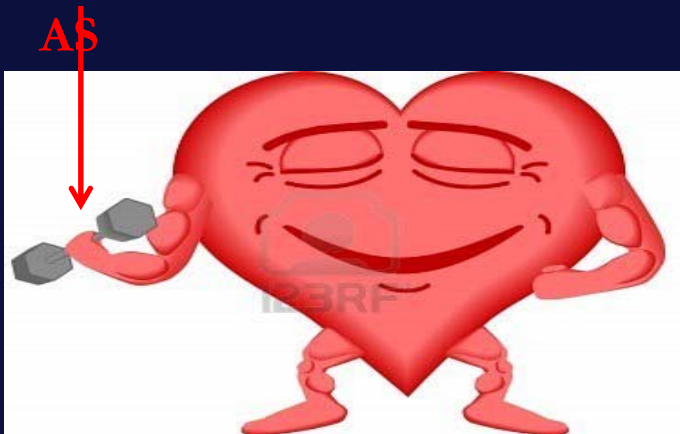


## Gradient Determinants Aortic Root Diameter

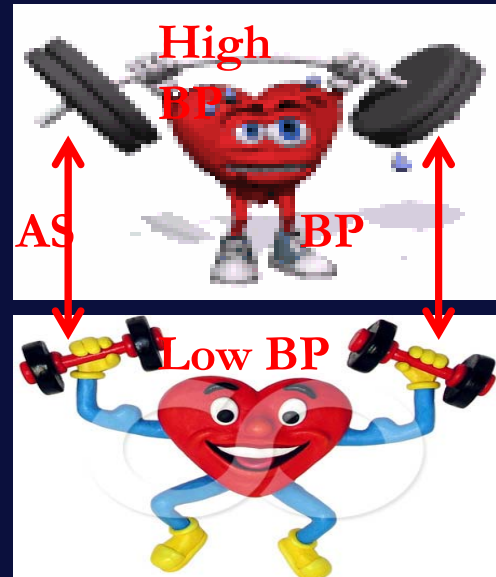
- The smaller the aortic root, the less energy loss, the more the pressure recovery, the lower the catheter gradient.
- This effect plateaus at a diameter of STJ 30 mm (area 7 cm<sup>2</sup>)



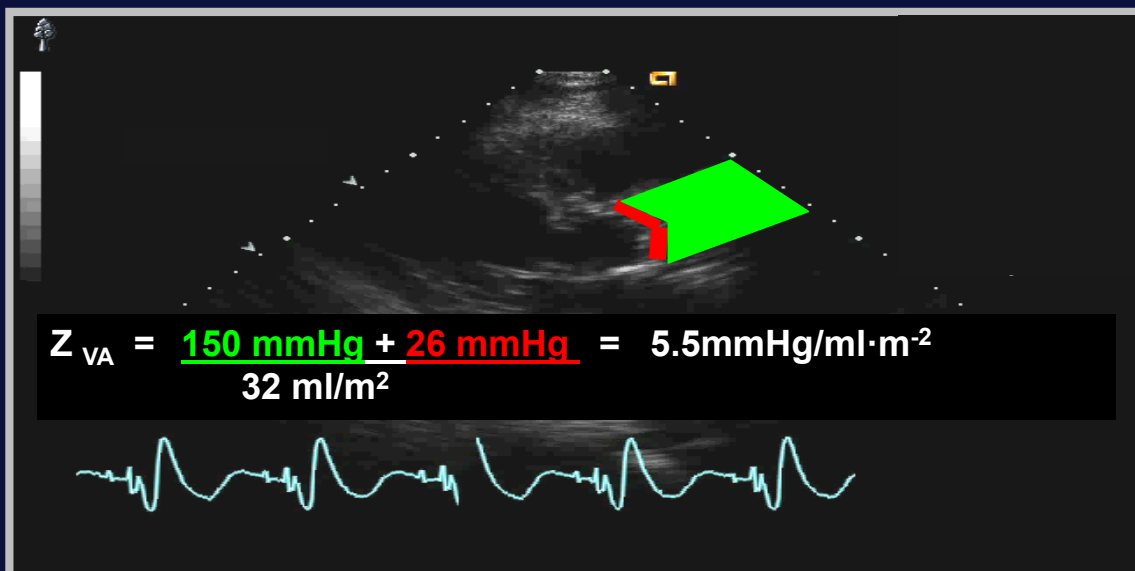
# Global Left Ventricular Afterload



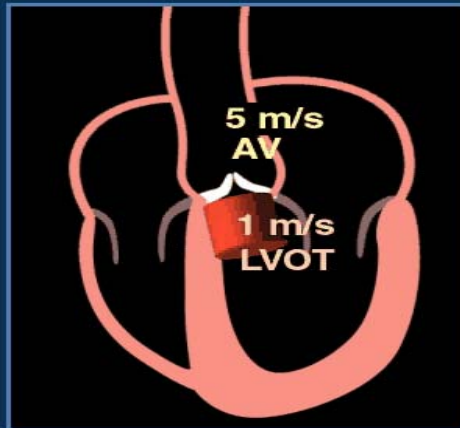
Moderate AS and low compliance =  
Severe AS and normal compliance



# Global Left Ventricular Afterload



**Severe  
Aortic Stenosis  
with  
Normal Function**



**Area Gradient Match**

**Normal Ejection Fraction  
Normal SV & Flow Rate**

**$AVA < 1 \text{ cm}^2$**

**$\Delta P_{\text{mean}} > 40 \text{ mmHg}$**

Courtesy Heidi Connolly

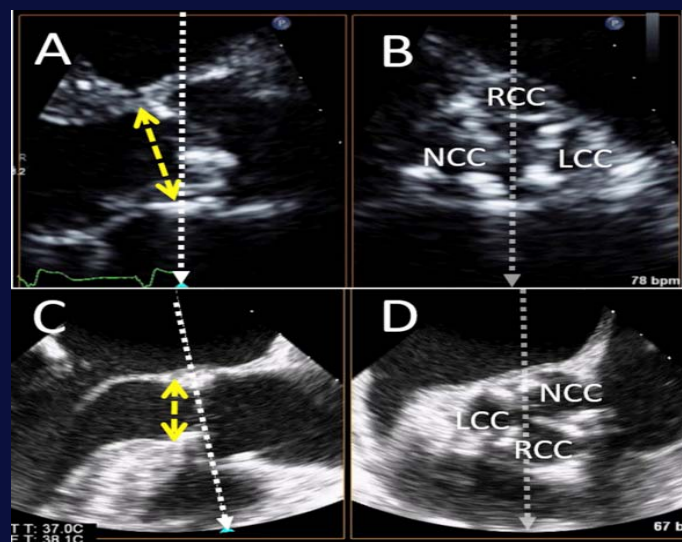
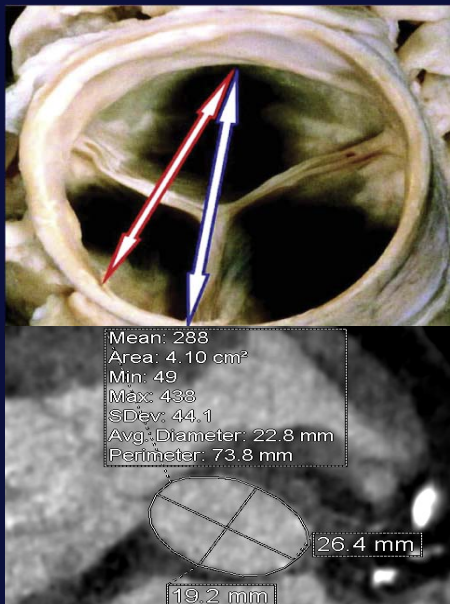
# **Aortic Stenosis**

## **Area/Gradient Mismatch**

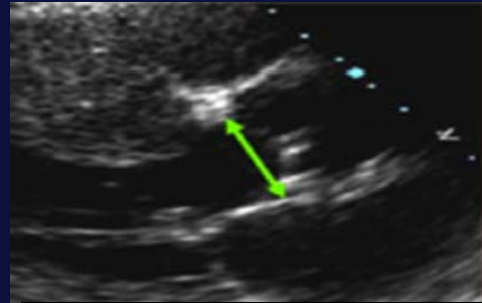
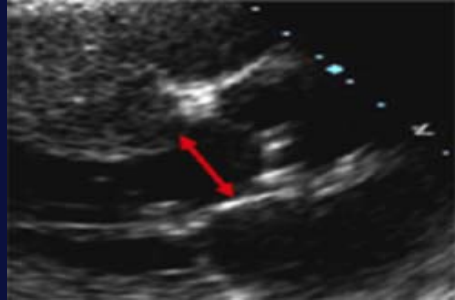
# Area Gradient Mismatch

- Measurement Error
- Assumption Error
- Low Flow/Low Gradient/Low EF area/gradient mismatch
- Low Flow/Low Gradient/Normal EF area/gradient mismatch

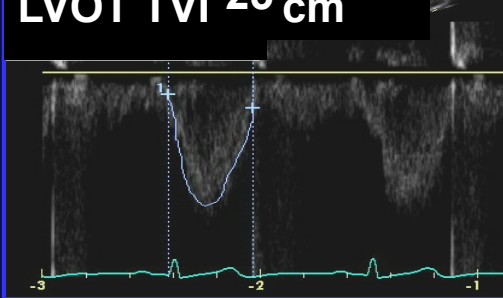
## Measurement Errors: LVOT D Error Proportional to AVA



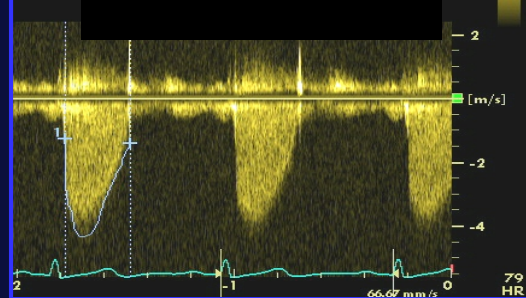
## Measurement Errors: LVOT D Error Proportional to AVA



LVOT diam 2.0 cm  
LVOT TVI 25 cm



AV TVI 98cm



$$\text{Area 1} \times \text{TVI}_1 = \text{Area 2} \times \text{TVI}_2$$

$$.785 (2.0)^2 \times 25 = \text{AVA} \times 98$$

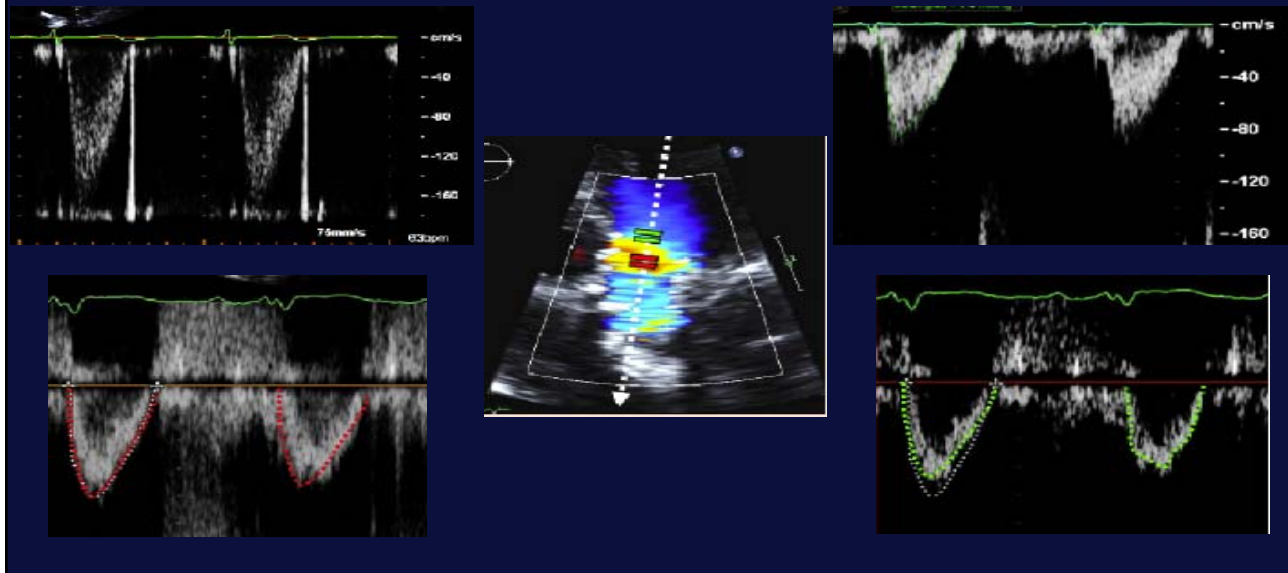
$$\text{AVA} = 78.8 / 98$$

$$\text{If LVOT diameter } 1.8 \text{ cm}^2 = 0.8 \text{ cm}^2$$

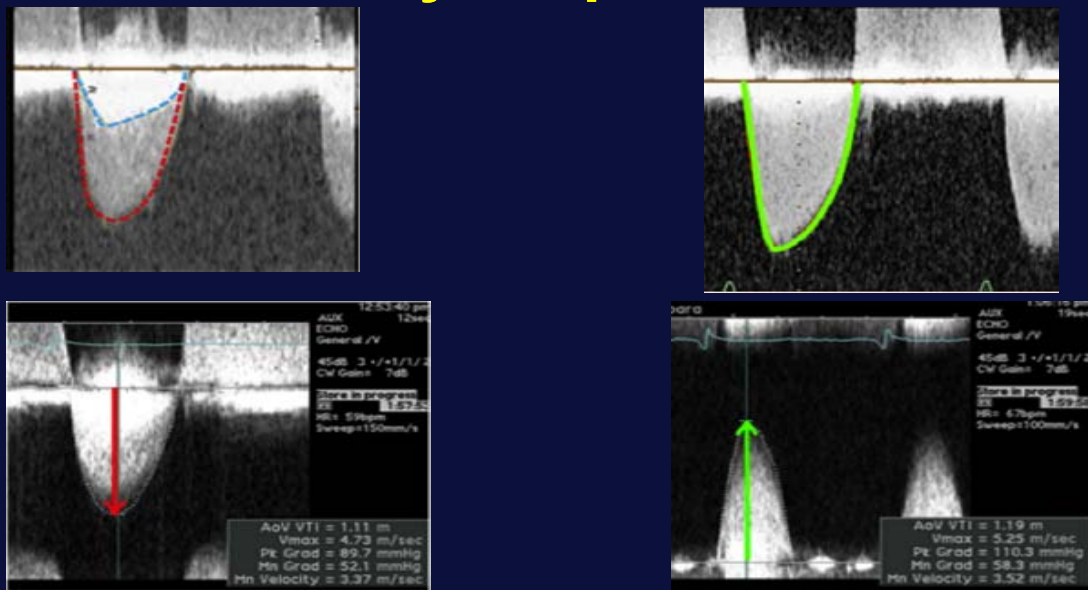
$$= 0.65 \text{ cm}^2 \quad \downarrow 19\%$$



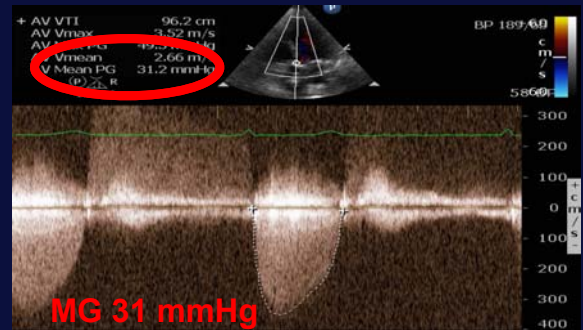
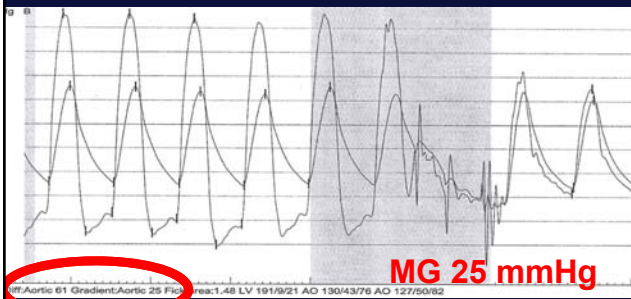
# Measurement Errors: LVOT TVI Error Proportional to AVA



# Measurement Errors: AV VTI Error Inversely Proportional to AVA



# Measurement Errors Catheterization and Doppler

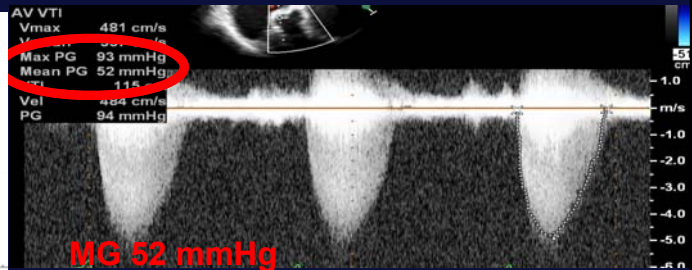
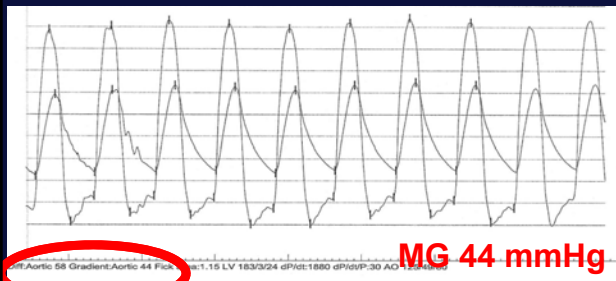


84 Y/O NYHA III, 3/6 SEM, no S2

# Measurement Errors Catheterization and Doppler



# Measurement Errors Catheterization and Doppler



## Assumption Errors MG when AVA = 1.0cm<sup>2</sup>

Carabello BA. NEJM 2002;346:677-682

Aortic Valve Area (cm <sup>2</sup> )	Mean Gradient (mmHg)
3.0	2.6
2.0	6.6
1.0	26
0.9	32
0.8	41
0.7	53
0.6	73

# Aortic Stenosis

## Area Gradient Mismatch

Low flow (normal or reduced LVEF)

Mean Gradient <30-40mmHg

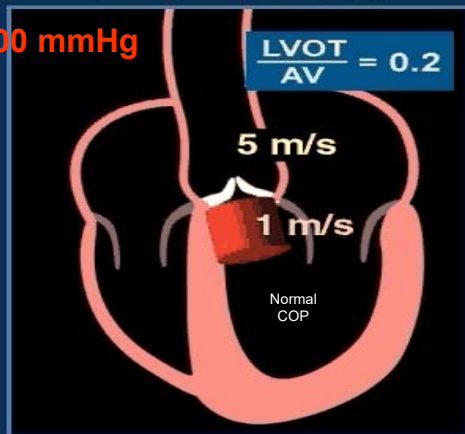
AVA <1.0cm<sup>2</sup>

True,  
Severe AS

Mild-Mod AS  
Low Flow  
(pseudo AS)

Severe  
Aortic Stenosis  
with  
Normal Function

MIG: 100 mmHg

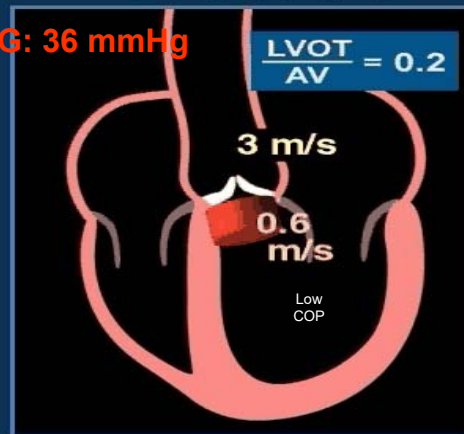


Area/Gradient Match  
AVA < 1cm<sup>2</sup>

$\Delta P_{\text{mean}} > 40 \text{ mmHg}$

Severe  
Aortic Stenosis  
with  
Low Gradient

MIG: 36 mmHg



Area/Gradient Mismatch  
AVA < 1cm<sup>2</sup>

$\Delta P_{\text{mean}} < 40 \text{ mmHg}$

# **Aortic Stenosis**

## **Low Flow/Low Gradient/Low EF**

**Risk Stratify**  
**Dobutamine Stress**  
**Projected AVA**  
**AV Calcium Score**  
**Strain Imaging**

## **Low EF Area Gradient Mismatch**

**Risk Stratify**  
**Dobutamine Stress**

# Dobutamine Echocardiography

Baseline Doppler  
hemodynamics

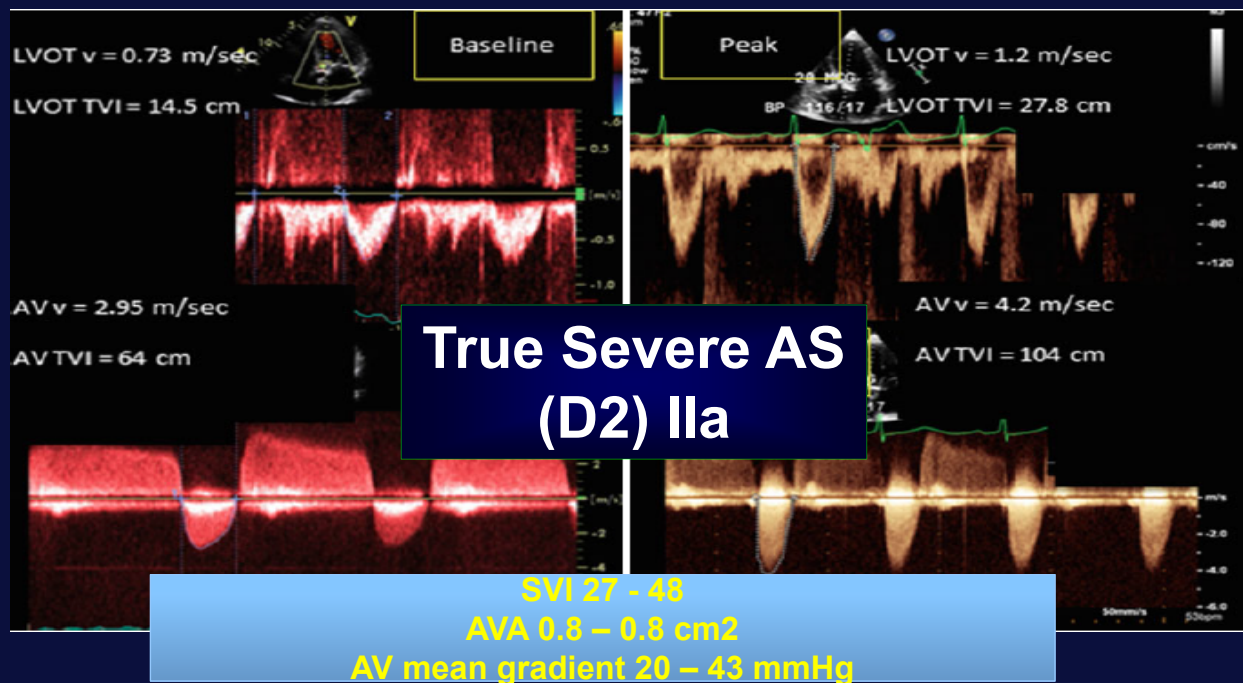
**Flow Reserve?  $\geq 20\%$  SV**

Vmax

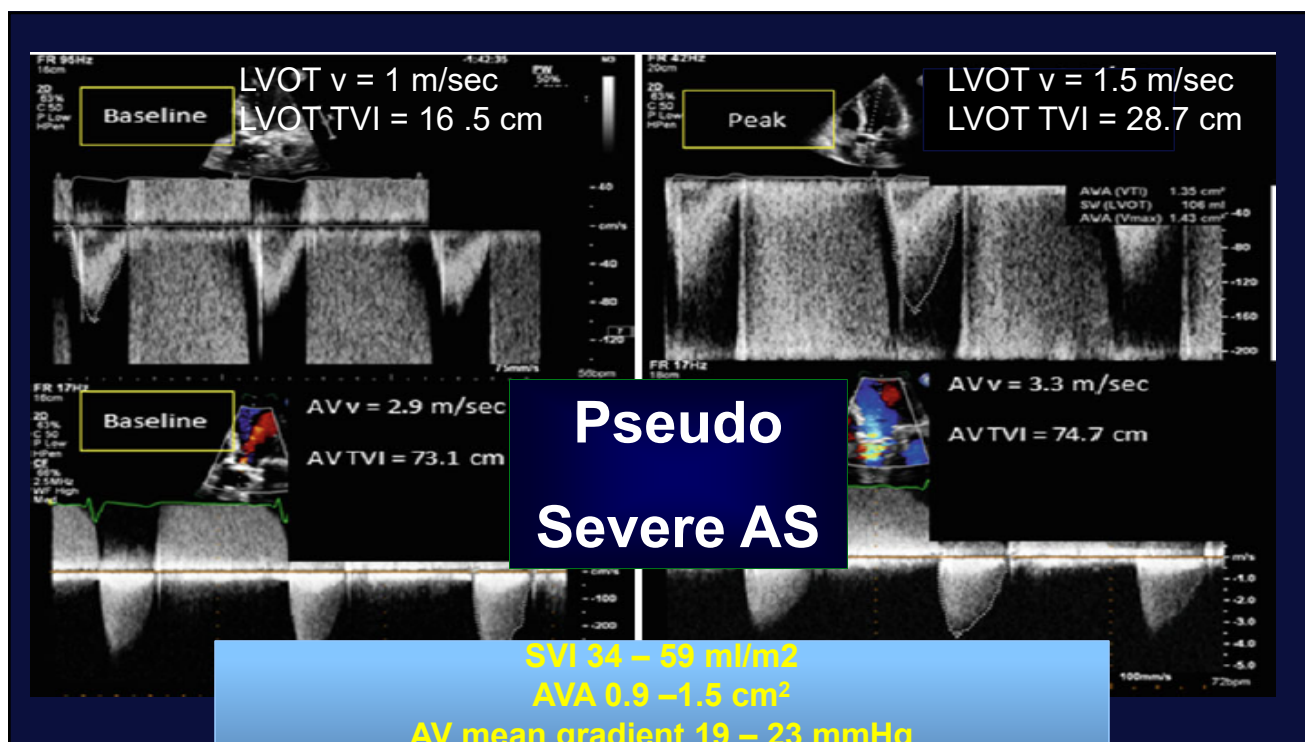
Mean gradient  
AV Area

True Severe AS  
(D2) IIa

Pseudo Severe AS

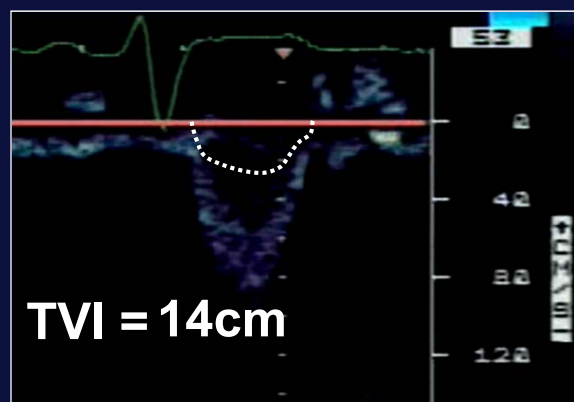
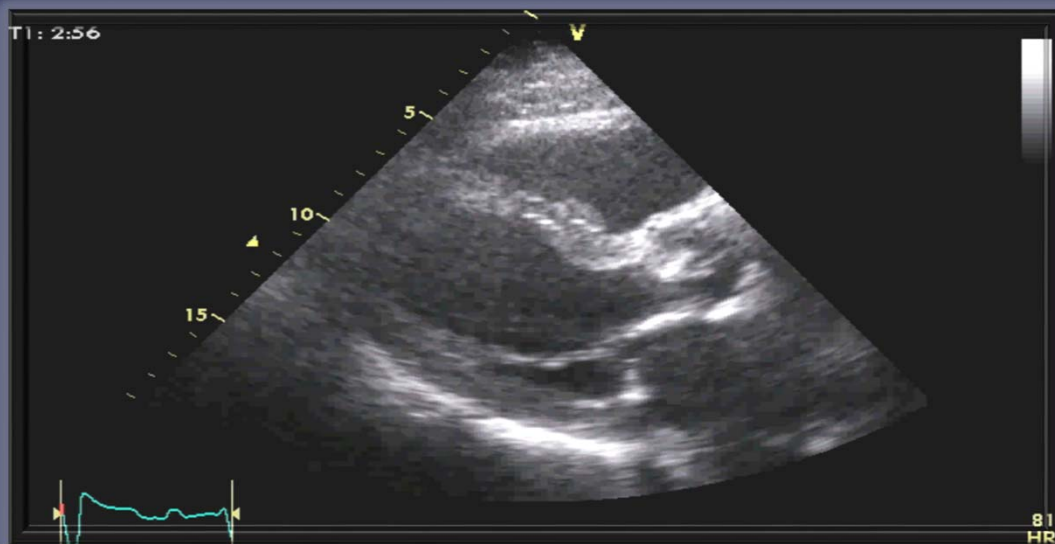




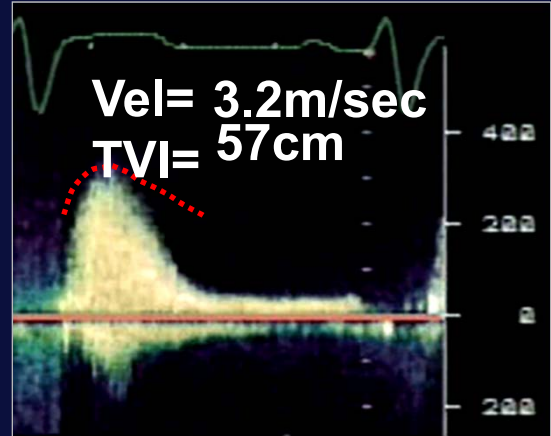
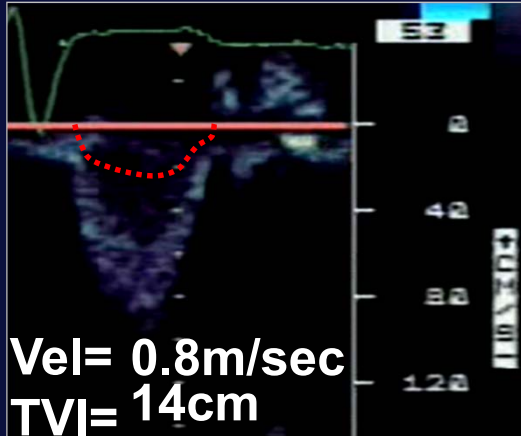


# Case

- 62 y/o male
- STEMI and subsequent CABG five years ago
- Recurrent heart failure x 3 months

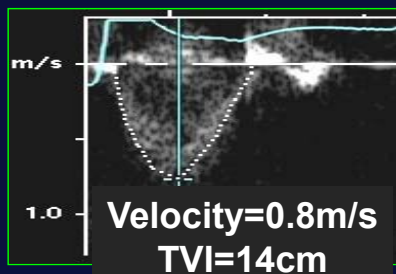


$$\begin{aligned} \text{Stroke Volume} &= \text{CSA} \times \text{TVI} \\ &= 0.785 ( \quad )^2 \times \\ &= 53\text{cm}^3 \end{aligned}$$



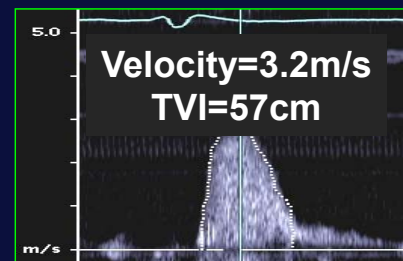
$$\text{Area}_{AV} = \frac{0.785 (2.2\text{cm})^2 \times ( )}{ } \\ = 0.9 \text{ cm}^2, \text{ MG } 24\text{mmHg}$$

## LVOT

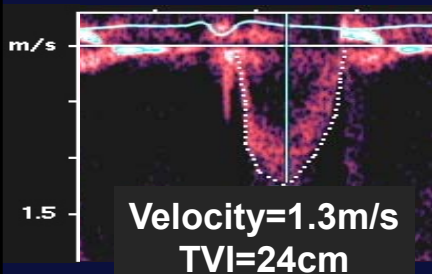


**Rest**  
SV= 53ml  
AVA=0.9cm<sup>2</sup>

## Aortic Valve

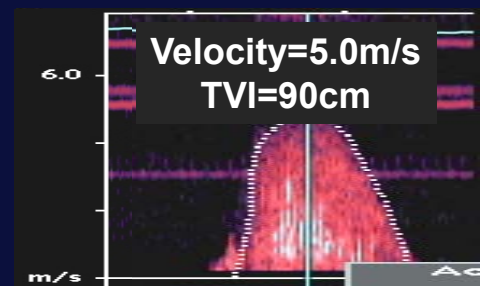


## LVOT



**Peak**  
SV= 91ml  
AVA=1.0cm<sup>2</sup>

## Aortic Valve



# Dobutamine Stress

LV Stroke Volume

53– 91ml

Mean AV Gradient

24 – 52mmHg

Valve Area

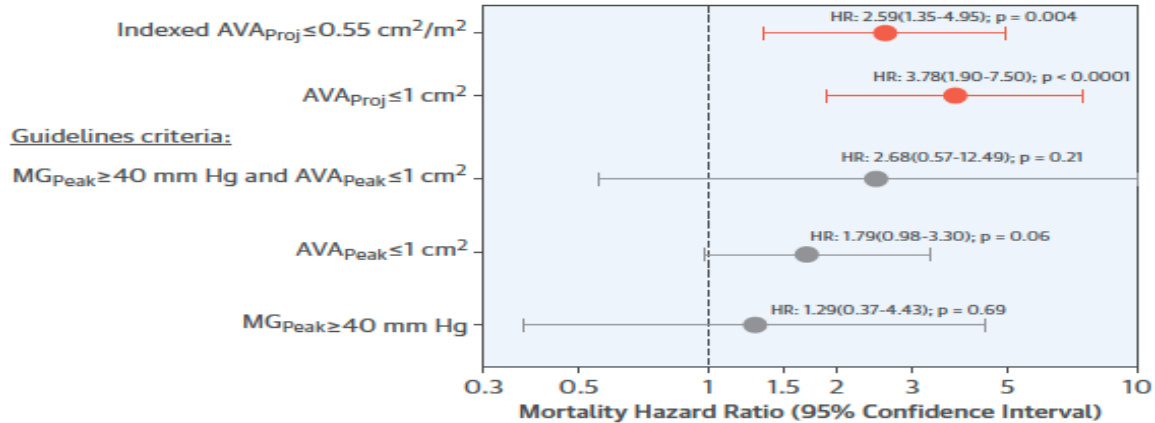
0.9cm<sup>2</sup> – 1.0cm<sup>2</sup>

## Low EF Area Gradient Mismatch

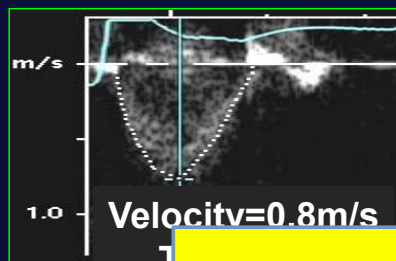
Risk Stratify  
Projected AVA

# Projected AV Area $\leq 1-1.2 \text{ cm}^2$

## Dobutamine Stress Echocardiography for Management of Low-Flow, Low-Gradient Aortic Stenosis



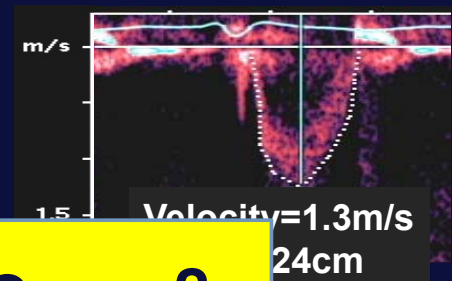
LVOT



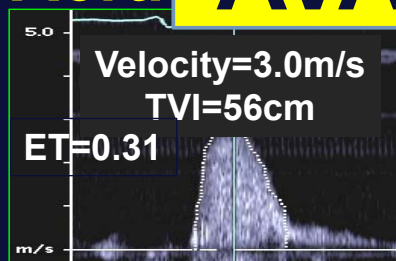
Rest

SV= 53ml  
 $AVA=0.9\text{cm}^2$

LVOT

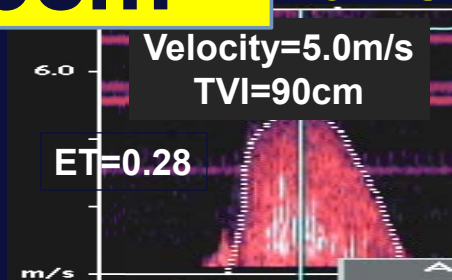


Aortic  $AVA_{\text{Proj}} = 0.96\text{cm}^2$  Valve



Peak

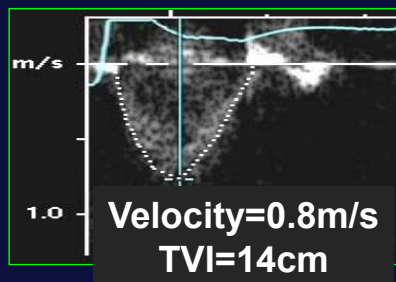
SV= 91ml  
 $AVA=1.0\text{cm}^2$   
 $Q_{\text{mean}}=325\text{ml.s}^{-1}$



# Low EF Area Gradient Mismatch

## Risk Stratify Stroke Flow Rate

### LVOT



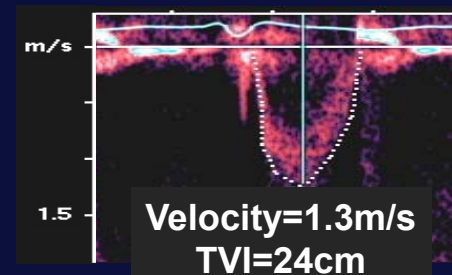
SV= 53ml

AVA=0.9cm<sup>2</sup>

ET=0.31

$$Q_{\text{mean}} = 53 / 0.31 = 171 \text{ ml.s}^{-1}$$

### LVOT



SV= 91ml

AVA=0.9cm<sup>2</sup>

ET=0.28

$$Q_{\text{mean}} = 91 / 0.28 = 325 \text{ ml.s}^{-1}$$



## Resting Aortic Valve Area at Normal Transaortic Flow Rate Reflects True Valve Area in Suspected Low Gradient Severe Aortic Stenosis

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	n	Rest AVA, cm <sup>2</sup>	Stress AVA, cm <sup>2</sup>	p value
Q < 200 ml/s	48	0.74±0.12	0.89±0.25	<0.001
Q ≥ 200 ml/s	19	0.85±0.09	0.89±0.12	0.19

**Interpretation:** If normal resting flow rate, the corresponding AVA is likely to be represent the true hemodynamic severity of the stenosis and further “flow correction” with SECHO is not likely required.

J Am Coll Cardiol Img 2015

## Aortic Stenosis Low Flow/Low Gradient/Low EF

**Risk Stratify  
AV Calcium Score**

## Impact of Aortic Valve Calcification, as Measured by MDCT, on Survival in Patients with Aortic Stenosis

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ABSTRACT

### Aortic Valve Calcium Burden

1. 1651 AU previous study
2. >1200 (1600) AU (W), >2000 (3000) AU (M)
3. 300 AU/cm<sup>2</sup> (W), 500 AU/cm<sup>2</sup> (M)
4. Less Likely: <800 AU (W), <1600 AU (M)

## Aortic Stenosis

Low Flow/Low Gradient/Low EF

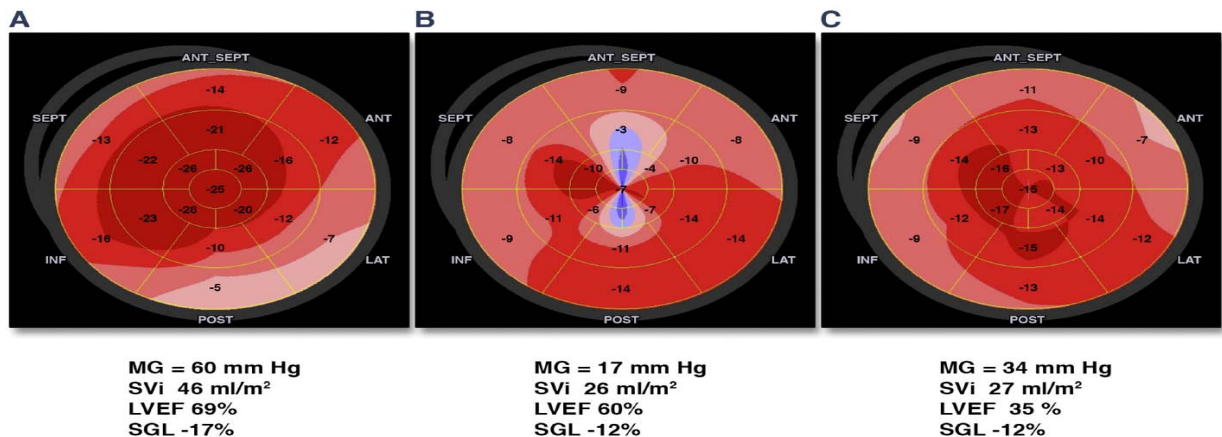
**Risk Stratify**  
Strain Imaging

# LV Mechanics in Mitral and Aortic Valve Diseases

## Value of Functional Assessment Beyond Ejection Fraction

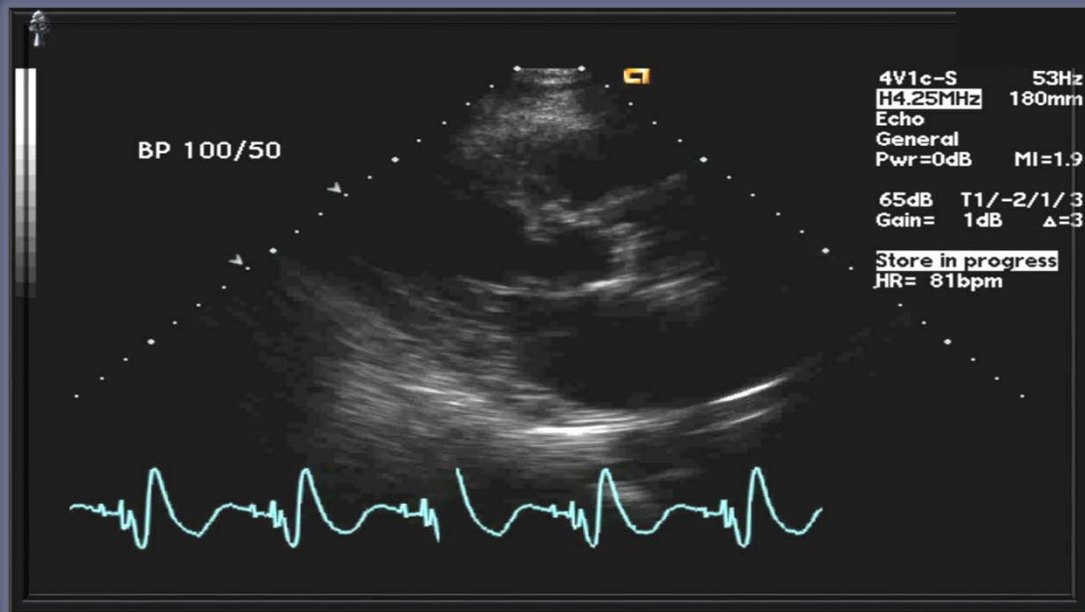
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## Case

- 75 year old male
- Presents with dyspnea and syncope
- HTN (treated BP 150/75)
- Grade III/VI mid peaking systolic murmur LSB



## Echocardiography

### Normal EF Area Gradient Mismatch

- LVEF 55%
- AV Mean G 26mmHg
- AVA 0.8cm<sup>2</sup>
- AVA index 0.45cm<sup>2</sup>/m<sup>2</sup>
- LVEDV 88ml
- SVi 32 ml/m<sup>2</sup>

## Flow Versus EF

- So why is the Flow Low?

Preload: Small LV volume (LVH)

Contractility: Despite EF normal, contractility (&EF) impaired for degree of LVH

Afterload: Global LV afterload (Valve and Vascular)

## Approach to Patients with Normal EF Area Gradient Mismatch

1. Is the patient symptomatic?  
(exercise testing)

2. Is the stenosis  
severe?

3. Is the patient  
hypertensive?

4. GLS/contractility  
& Diastolic Function/RWT?

5. Other Causes of Low Flow?  
Mitral regurgitation

# Aortic Stenosis

Low Flow/Low Gradient/NL EF

## Risk Stratify

AV Calcium Score

Strain Imaging

Stroke Flow Rate

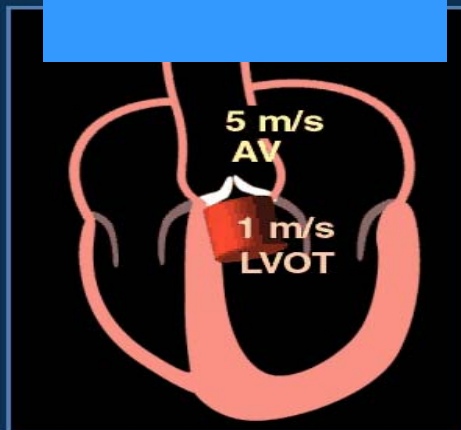
## Novel Classification of AS with Normal EF

Severe AS with Preserved EF			
Gradient			
Flow	Low		Normal
	NF/LG severe AS Area/Gradient Mismatch	NF/HG severe AS Area/Gradient Match	
Flow	High		Low
	PLF/LG severe AS Area/Gradient Mismatch	LF/HG severe AS Area/Gradient Match	

# Aortic Stenosis

## Reverse Area/Gradient Mismatch

Elevated Gradient  
Despite non-critical AS



Reverse Area/Gradient  
Mismatch  
 $AVA > 1 \text{ cm}^2$   
 $\Delta P_{\text{mean}} > 40 \text{ mmHg}$

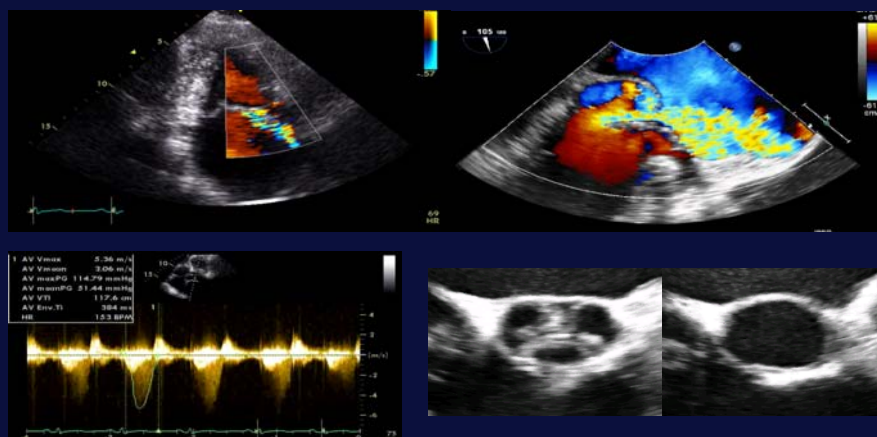
Courtesy Heidi Connolly



# Causes of Reverse A/G Mismatch

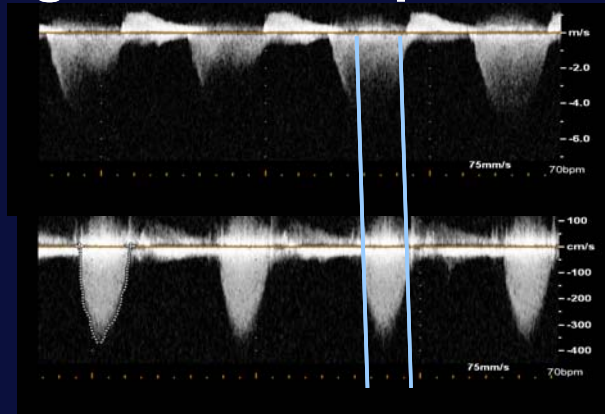
- Errors of Measurement
- High Flow
- Pressure recovery
- Eccentric Jet
- Para-valvular Obstruction
- Prosthetic-valve specific

## Errors of Measurements Eccentric Mitral

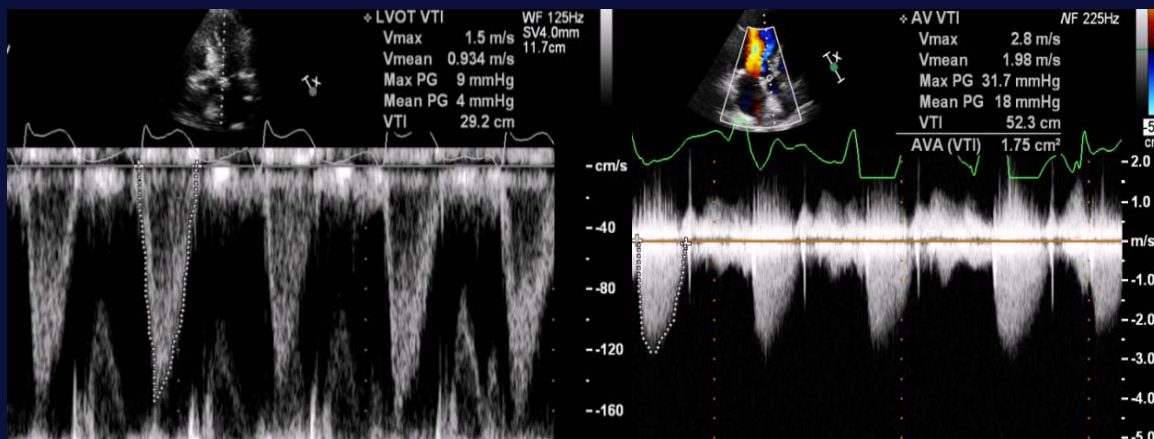


# Mitral Regurgitant Jet Versus Aortic Stenosis Jet

- Mitral regurgitation occupies IVC and IVR



## High Flow



- Aortic regurgitation
- Hyperdynamic states (dialysis, anemia)
- Dimensionless Index

B

# Pressure Recovery

## Doppler

P<sub>mean</sub> = 34 mmHg

EOA = 0.6 cm<sup>2</sup>

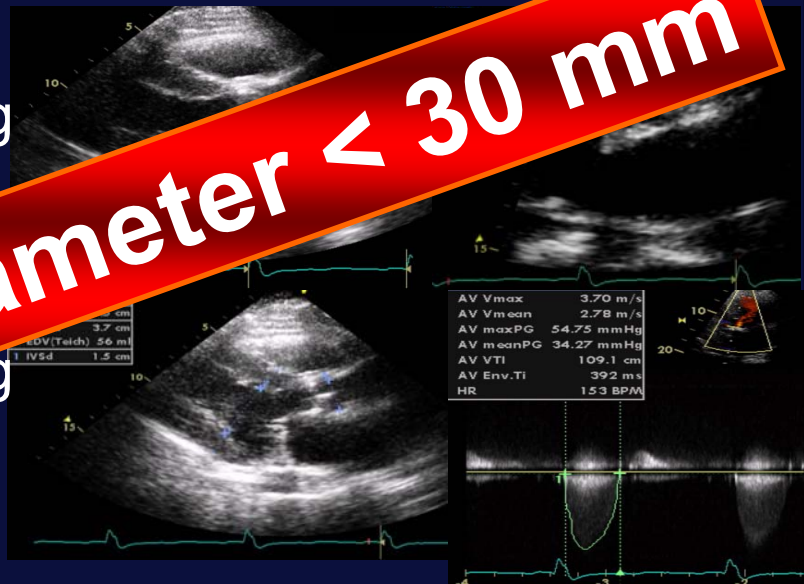
## Catheter

P<sub>mean</sub> = 18 mmHg

EOA = 0.6 cm<sup>2</sup>

APR = 34 - 18 = 16

**Aortic Diameter < 30 mm**



## Energy Loss Index

- Energy loss Co-efficient

$$ELCo = \frac{AVA \times AAa}{AAa - AVA}$$

- AVA = aortic valve area, AAa = aortic area
- Energy loss index: ELCo/BSA
- ELI < 0.52-0.76 cm<sup>2</sup> has poor outcomes and severe AS
- More significant with increase flow and moderate aortic stenosis

## Pressure Recovery/High Flow

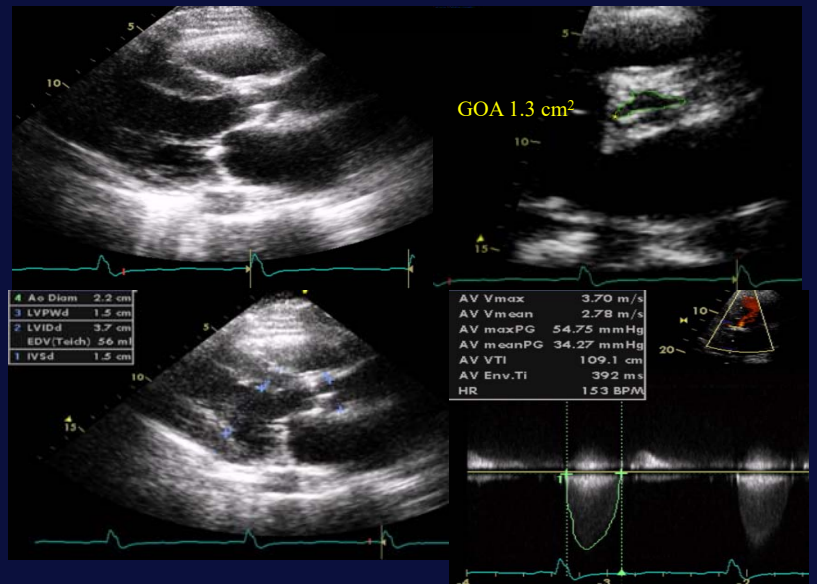
EOA =  $0.6 \text{ cm}^2$

AA<sub>d</sub> =  $2.2 \text{ cm}$

AA<sub>a</sub> =  $3.8 \text{ cm}^2$

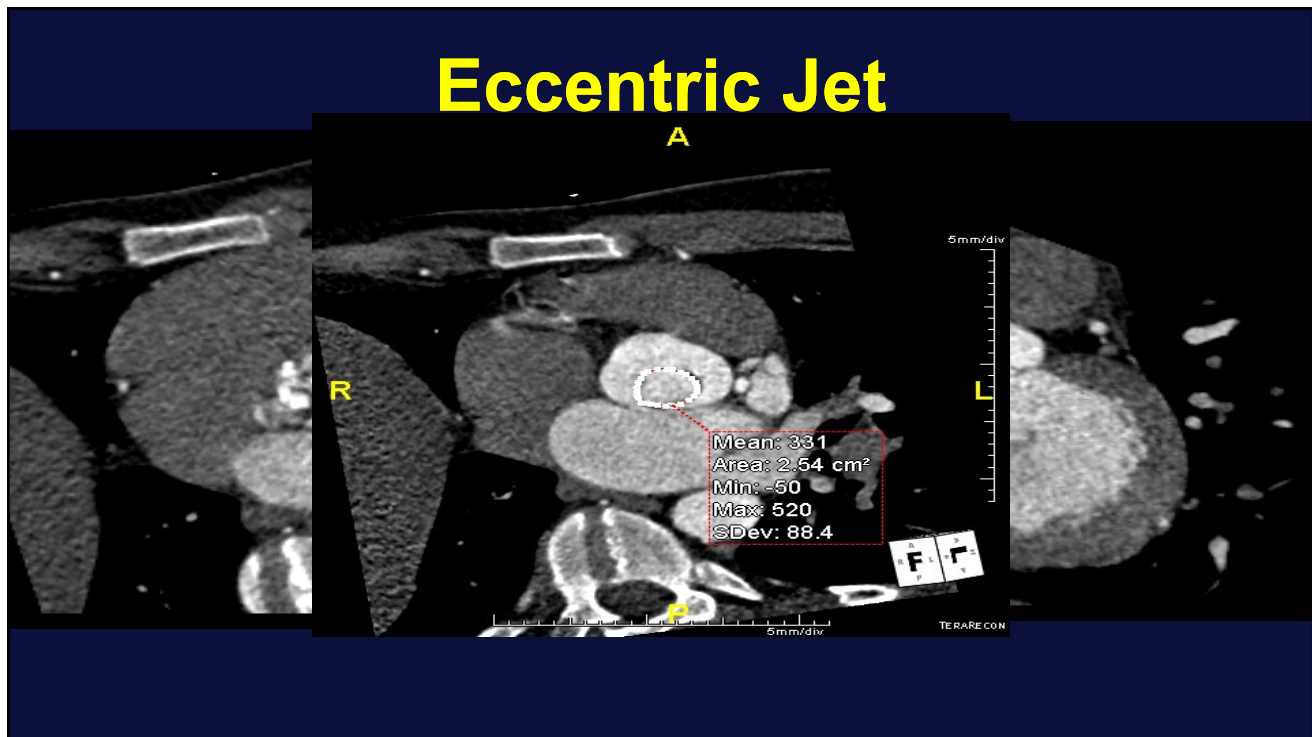
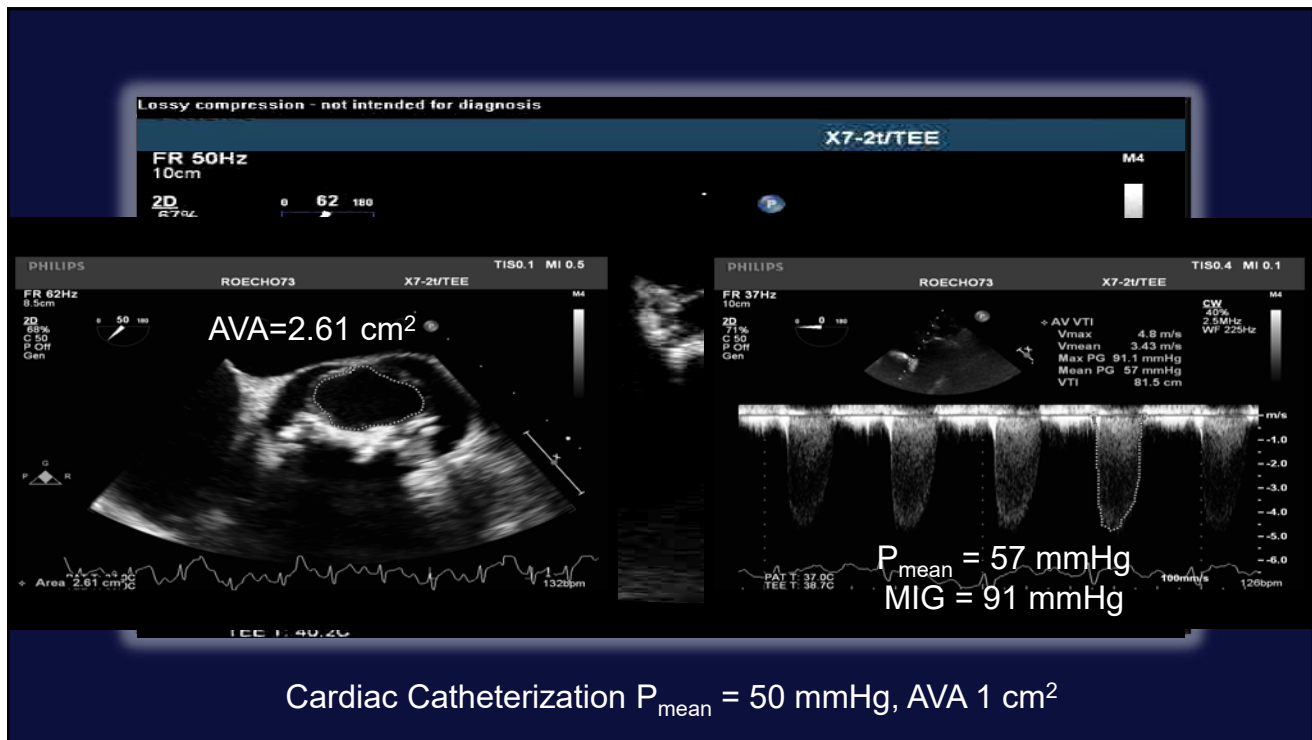
EI<sub>Co</sub> =

$3.8 \times 0.6 / 3.8 - 0.6$

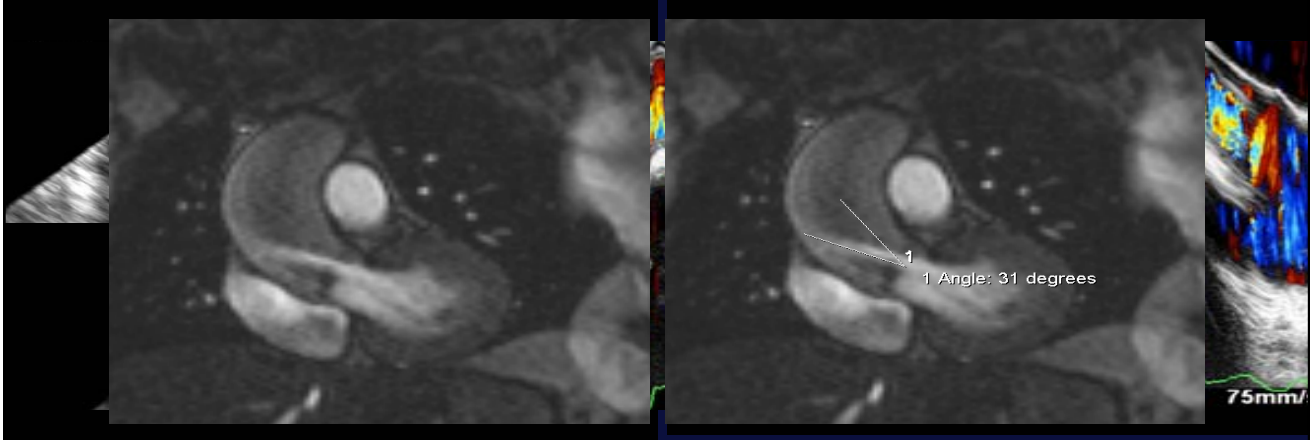


## Eccentric Jet

- Case:
- 29 y/o male
- Carries a diagnosis of Asymptomatic severe AS
- Quit Law School



## Eccentric Jet: Echo



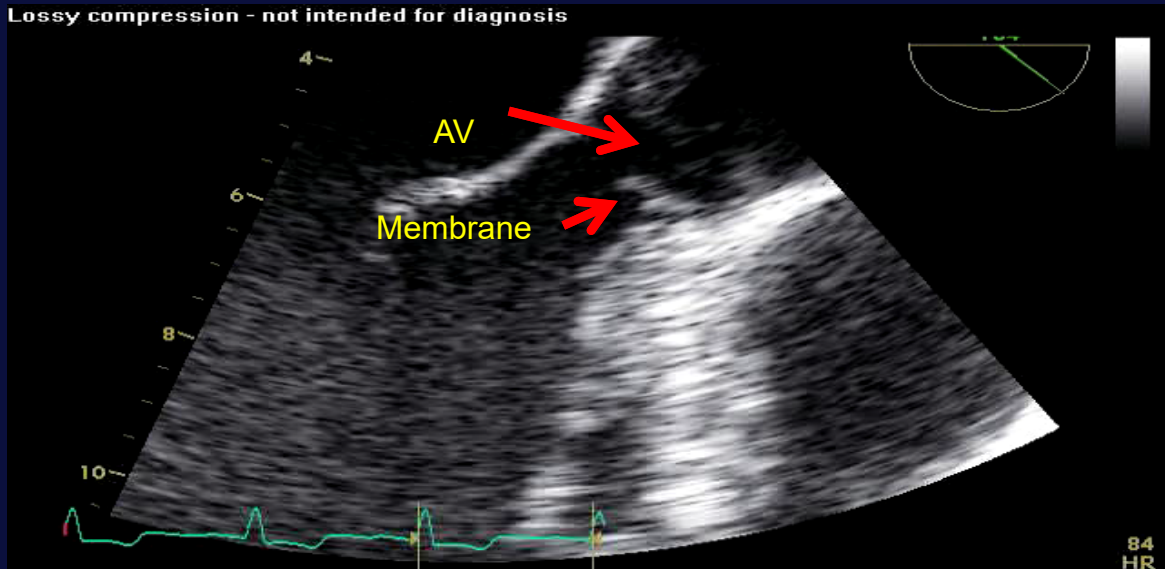
## Para-valvular Obstruction

- Sub-Aortic membrane
- Hypertrophic Obstructive Cardiomyopathy
- Supravalvular Obstruction
- Mitral valve Prosthesis



# Sub-Aortic Membrane

Lossy compression - not intended for diagnosis



# Sub-Aortic Membrane

Progressive Disease

Other congenital anomalies in 50%

VSD/PDA/Coarctation

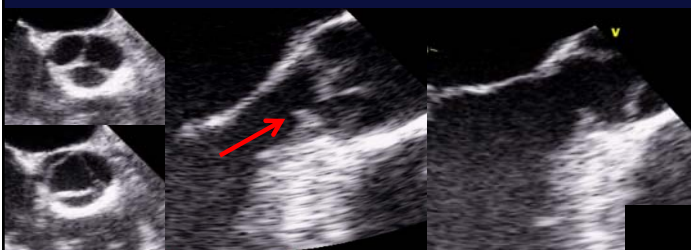
Shone's Complex

Bicuspid AV

leftsided-SVC

B

Types: Membrane, fibromuscular ridge,  
Diffuse tunnel narrowing, mitral tissue



May Cause aortic regurgitation

Treatment: Surgery

No symptoms: Catheter LVOT-A

peak/Doppler Mean = 50 mmHg

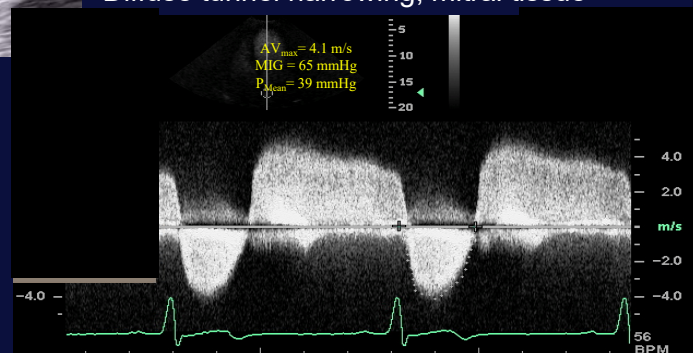
Symptoms: Catheter LVOT-A peak/Doppler

Mean = 30-50 mmHg

Adults may use Doppler Peak > 50 mmHg

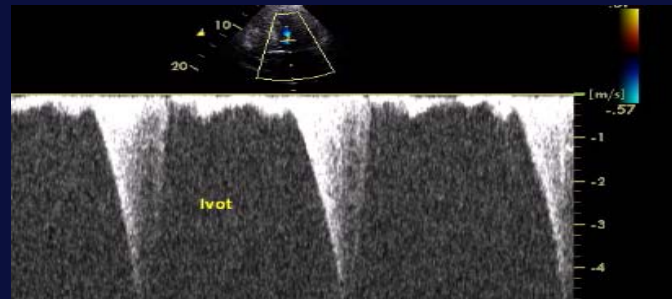
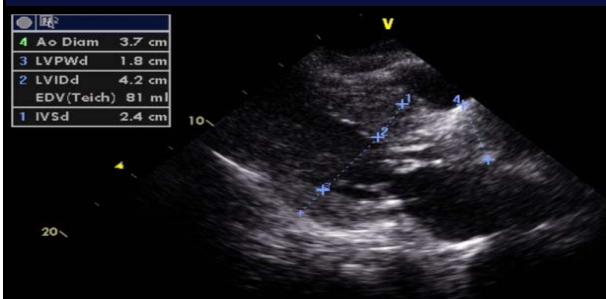
Resection/Konno procedure

B



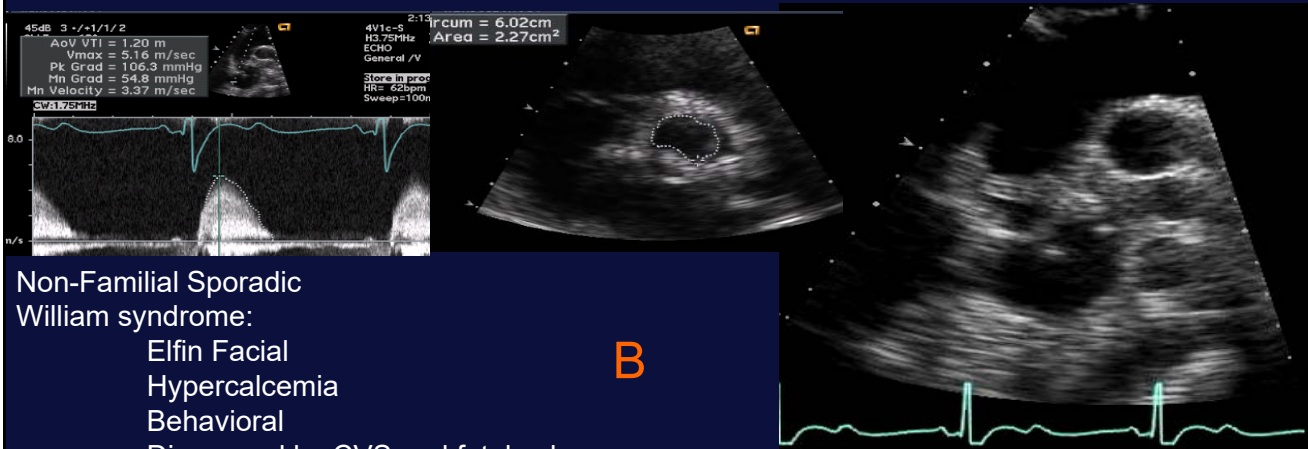


# Hypertrophic Obstructive Cardiomyopathy



Alcohol Septal Ablation or Surgery  
High Risk features  
ICD

# Supra-Aortic Obstruction



Non-Familial Sporadic  
William syndrome:

Elfin Facial  
Hypercalcemia  
Behavioral  
Diagnosed by CVS and fetal echo

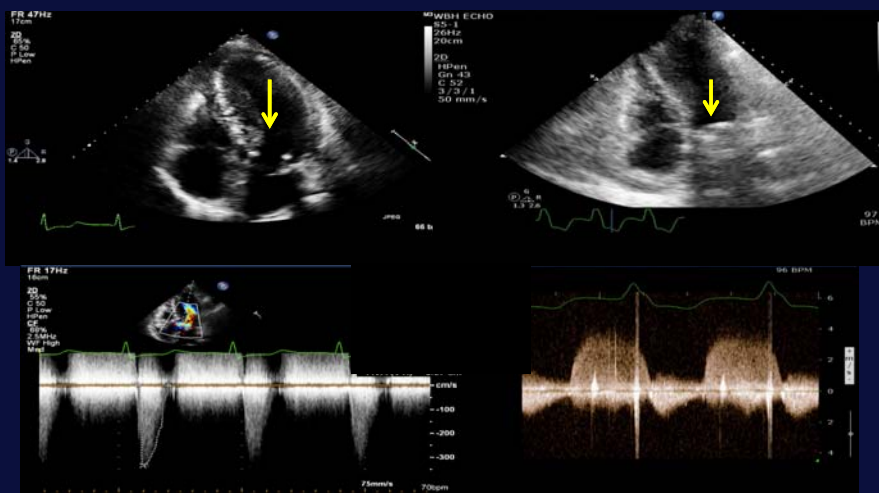
Familial Sporadic

Coronary anomalies

Types: Hour glass, Membrane, Diffuse narrowing: Surgery

B

# Obstruction by Mitral Valve Prosthesis



## Take Home Message Severe Aortic Stenosis

### Multimodality Approach

- In addition to AVA and  $\Delta P_{\text{mean}}$

**Flow** SVI < 35 ml/m<sup>2</sup>, Flow rate < 200 ml/s

**Flow** eccentricity

**Pressure Recovery/ AV morphology**

- Think of **global afterload** in AS to the LV: Mixed AV disease/HTN **regardless of symptoms**
- Area and Gradient may **not match**
- Echo/Cath/AV morphology provide **complimentary NOT identical** data

# CONCLUSIONS

- For a given AV GOA
  - The Gradient can be variable
  - The EOA can be variable  
(Derived from gradient)
  - The Area and Gradient may not match
  - The Doppler and Catheter measures may not match

THANK YOU